Fax:7132668510 Nov 5 '04 13:48 P.10

REMARKS

This application is a continuation of United States Patent Application Ser. No. 09/928,768 filed on August 13, 2001, now United States Patent 6,727,696. In the preliminary amendment filed with the present application, amendments to the specifications filed in the Parent Application were entered, claims 1-72 were canceled, and new claim 73 was added.

In the present amendment, new claims 74-99 have been added. Claim 74 is an independent apparatus claim. Claim 74 is a broadening of claim 35 of US6727696. The claims dependent upon claim 74 all contain limitations of dependent claims of US6727696

Claim 88 is an independent method claim. This claim is a broadening of claim 62 of US6727696. The claims dependent upon claim 88 all contain limitations of dependent claims of US6727696.

No new matter has been added by the amendments. Consideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

An additional fee of \$162.00 is believed to be due for nine claims in excess of twenty. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge this and any deficiency, and credit any surplus to Deposit Account 02-0429 (414-26579-USC)

414-26579-USC

MADANMOSSMANSRIRAM

Respectfully submitted

Date: November 5, 2004

Kaushik P. Sriram, Reg. No. 43,150 Madan Mossman & Sriram, PC

2603 Augusta Suite 700 Houston, Texas 77057-5638

Tel: (713) 266-1130 x 121

Fax: (713) 266-8510 Attorneys for Applicants